GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2717
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2016
Research on Himalayan Glaciers
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Institutes and Universities where the research on the Himalayan Glaciers and other related issues is being conducted, State-wise;
(b) the total amount of funds allocated to Himalayan Study Institutes by the Government along with the amount utilised by these institutes during each of the last three years, institute-wise;
(c) the progress achieved by the said study centres/institutes; and
(d) whether the Government has sanctioned any new research projects including projects related to global warming and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE)
(a) A number of Institutes and Universities in the country are involved in various aspects of the Himalayan Region including studies on glaciers. These include the following:
1. Geological Survey of India, North Zonal Office, Lucknow, UP
2. Centre for Glaciology, Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun, Uttarakhand
3. GB Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment & Sustainable Development, Kosi-Katarmal, Almora, Uttarakhand
4. National Institute of Hydrology, Roorkee, Uttarakhand
5. Space Application Centre, Ahmedabad, Gujarat
6. Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
7. Birbal Sahni Institute of Paleo − Botany, Lucknow, UP
8. Geology Department of H.N. Bahuguna University, Srinagar Garhwal, Uttarakhand
9. Jammu University, Jammu, J&K
10. Sikkim Science and Technology Department, Gangtok, Sikkim

(b) (c) & (d) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change(MoEF&CC) supports the activities of GB Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment and Sustainable Development, Almora, Uttarakhand for undertaking studies in the Himalayan Region and for the implementation of the National Mission on Himalayan Studies (NMHS). A project titled, "Monitoring Snow and Glaciers of Himalayan region (Phase-II)", has been jointly funded by Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change and Department of Space (DOS) in the year 2010 and has been executed by Space Applications Centre, ISRO, Ahmedabad as a nodal agency in collaboration with eighteen other institutions of the nation for a total project cost of Rs10.93 crores of which an amount of Rs 605.21 lakhs has been released so far.
The studies under the National Mission on Himalayan Studies were launched recently during 2015-16, for a period of three to five years. No research project has been sanctioned during the current financial year.
The Department of Science and Technology (DST), Ministry of Science and Technology is coordinating and implementing the National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem (NMSHE). Under this mission, an Inter-University Consortium in Cryospheric Research has been set up with four partnering Universities. In addition, establishment of State Climate Change Centres/Cells in various institutes/departments of seven out of twelve Himalayan States, namely Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim and Meghalaya is being funded under the NMSHE.

The details of the allocation of funds and expenditure incurred during the last three years by the GB Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment and Sustainable Development, NMHS, NMSHE and Geological Survey of India, is given at Annexures-I (A), (B), (C) and (D).

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